



MEDIA RELEASE
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**VERMONT MAN SENTENCED TO SIX MONTHS PROBATION FOR
UNAUTHORIZED WEARING OF AN ARMED SERVICES UNIFORM AND MEDALS**

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE -- Matthew J. Phillips, a 31-year-old resident of Main Street in Springfield, Vermont, was sentenced to six months probation by United States Magistrate Court Judge James R. Muirhead for the unauthorized wearing of an armed services uniform and the unauthorized wearing of armed forces medals.

When Phillips pleaded guilty last February, he acknowledged that in December, 2004, he entered the U.S. Naval Recruiting Station in Keene, New Hampshire, wearing a U.S. Navy lieutenant's uniform which displayed the U.S. Navy SEAL badge and portrayed himself as an enlisted Navy recruiter. In February, 2005, Phillips, wearing the same uniform, accompanied Naval recruiters to the high school in Bellows Falls, Vermont, where he posed as a Navy recruiter. Phillips also acknowledged that he had worn a Navy uniform with Naval medals on Veterans Day, November 11, 2004, in Claremont, New Hampshire, where he played a major role in a public ceremony and was photographed wearing a Navy uniform with Navy medals.

After Phillips was sentenced, U.S. Attorney Colantuono said, "This office has and will continue to take a strong stand against those who dishonor the men and women of the Armed Services who proudly serve this country and through bravery and sacrifice have been awarded medals of honor and distinction."

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jennifer Cole Davis.